

Appl. No. 10/091,380
Amdt. dated April 2, 2004
Reply to Office Action of January 6, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-29, are pending in this application.

Claim 24 is allowed.

Claim 15 was rejected under 25 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for reasons set forth in the Office Action. Claim 15 has been amended for clarity so as to overcome this ground of rejection.

Claims 11-13, 16, 18-20, 21 and 25 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Maue et al (US 5,785,532) for the reasons stated in the Office Action.

Claims 11-13, 15-21 and 25-29 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Viertel et al (US 5,203,623) on the grounds set forth in the Office Action.

Claims 11-13, 18-23 and 25 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Ha (US 5,584,208) for the reasons stated in the Office Action.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Viertel et al (US 5,203,623) on the grounds set forth in the Office Action.

In order to overcome the foregoing rejections and secure allowable subject matter in the claims, the claims have been amended, as set forth above, to emphasize the novel features of the present invention, and the following argument is presented.

While the contact pins arranged transversely to the longest extent of the lead and connected to the electronic component and/or the plug part are a feature of the invention, it is noted that the invention is concerned specifically with laying the electrical leads 15 in a layer of plastic foam 17 arranged on the carrier 10. Consequently, the plastic foam 17 forms an insulation for the electrical leads 15. Therefore, a number of electrical leads 15 to be laid do not require their own insulation. Thereby, the invention is concerned with constructing a cockpit without a wiring assembly. The electrical leads which, according to the prior art, were laid in the cockpit as a separate cable harness are now, according to the present invention, integrated in the carrier 10 and surrounded by a layer of plastic foam 17.

These features are disclosed in the original specification, at the bottom of the first paragraph on page 5, in Figure 2 and in claim 7. These features are set forth in amended claim 11 and in new claims 30-34, and are not shown in the cited art. In particular, it is noted that new claim 34 sets forth the limitation of electrical leads being generally parallel to the surface of the carrier, as suggested by the Examiner on page 6 of the Office Action. Accordingly, these claims are believed to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 102 and 103 so as to obtain allowable subject matter in the claims.

Deposit account forms in the amount of \$330.00 are presented to cover the Government fee for presenting three extra independent claim in excess of three independent claims and 4 extra total claims.

In the event there are further issues remaining in any respect the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone attorney to reach agreement to expedite issuance of this application.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Since the present claims set forth the present invention patentably and distinctly, and are not taught by the cited art either taken alone or in combination, this amendment is believed to place this case in condition for allowance and the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the matter, enter this amendment, and to allow all of the claims in this case.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR SECTION 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the accompanying Amendment and Deposit Account Charge are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patent, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 2, 2004.

Dated: April 2, 2004.

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